

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as indicated hereafter (where underlining " _ " denotes additions and strikethrough "-" denotes deletions).

Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of arranging for an electronically-recorded message to be delivered to a communication medium of a second user at a selected time, said method comprising:

recording the message by a first user on a stand-alone communication device in direct connection to a telephone line as customer premises equipment;

inputting an access code on the stand-alone communication device for accessing the communication medium of the second user; ~~and~~

indicating a delivery time for delivery of the message from the stand-alone communication device to the communication medium of the second user, wherein the message is selectable for retraction by canceling delivery of the message before the delivery time;

storing a plurality of groups of named recipients under user-defined categories and assigning each of the plurality of groups with a specific alphanumeric code;

determining whether each recipient of the message should receive the message at the same time; and

determining individual delivery instructions if any recipient should receive
the message at a different time,

wherein the first user is distinct from the second user.

2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
inputting a plurality of access codes for accessing a plurality of communication
media.

3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 2, further comprising:
indicating a plurality of delivery times, each delivery time corresponding to
delivery of the recorded message to each of a plurality of
communication media.

4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 3, further comprising:
indicating whether the message should only be delivered if the second
user directly receives the message.

5. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 4, further comprising:
indicating a re-send delay period used to re-send the message to a
second user after a re-send delay period if the recipient does not
directly receive the message.

6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 5, further comprising:
indicating a maximum re-send message number selected by the first user
used to re-send the message to a recipient a maximum number of
times when the second user does not directly receive the message.
7. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 6, further comprising:
indicating a re-send message number used to re-send the message to a
second user a number of times.
8. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the communication
medium is a telephone.
9. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein the access code is a
telephone number for the telephone.
10. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the communication
medium is a voicemail mailbox.
11. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein the access code is a
voicemail mailbox number.
12. (Canceled).

13. (Currently Amended) A method of sending an electronically-recorded message to a communication medium of a second user at a selected time, said method comprises:

recording the message by a first user on a stand-alone communication device in direct connection to a telephone line as customer premises equipment;

inputting an access code on the stand-alone communication device for accessing the communication medium of the second user;

indicating a delivery time for delivery of the message to a communication medium of the recipient second user; and

sending the message from the stand-alone communication device to the communication medium of the recipient second user when the time reaches the delivery time, wherein the message is selectable for retraction by canceling delivery of the message before the delivery time;

storing a plurality of groups of named recipients under user-defined categories and assigning each of the plurality of groups with a specific alphanumeric code;

determining whether each recipient of the message should receive the message at the same time; and

determining individual delivery instructions if any recipient should receive the message at a different time.

wherein the first user is distinct from the second user.

14. (Original) The method of claim 13, wherein the communication medium comprises a plurality of communication media, each communication medium having its own unique access code.

15. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 14, further comprising: inputting a plurality of access codes for accessing a plurality of communication media.

16. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 15, further comprising: indicating a plurality of delivery times, each delivery time corresponding to delivery of the recorded message to each of a plurality of communication media.

17. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 16, further comprising: indicating whether the message should only be delivered if the second user directly receives the message.

18. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17, further comprising:

indicating a re-send delay period used to re-send the message to a second user after a re-send delay period if the second user does not directly receive the message.

19. (Original) The method of claim 13, wherein the communication medium is a telephone.

20. (Original) The method of claim 19, wherein the access code is a telephone number for the telephone.

21. (Original) The method of claim 13, wherein the communication medium is a voicemail mailbox.

22. (Original) The method of claim 21, wherein the access code is a voicemail mailbox number.

23. - 34. (Canceled).

35. (Currently Amended) A system for arranging for an electronically-recorded message to a communication medium of a second user at a selected time, said system comprising:

- means for recording by a first user a message on a stand-alone communication device in direct connection to a telephone line as customer premises equipment;
- means for inputting an access code on the stand-alone communication device for accessing a communication medium of the second user;
- means for indicating a delivery time for delivery of the message to a communication medium of the second user; means for sending the message from the stand-alone communication device to the communication medium of the second user when the time reaches the delivery time; and
- means for selecting for retraction the message by canceling delivery of the message before the delivery time;
- means for storing a plurality of groups of named recipients under user-defined categories and assigning each of the plurality of groups with a specific alphanumeric code;
- means for determining whether each recipient of the message should receive the message at the same time; and
- means for determining individual delivery instructions if any recipient should receive the message at a different time.

wherein the first user is distinct from the second user.

36. (Original) The system of claim 35, wherein the communication medium comprises a plurality of communication media, each communication medium having its own unique access code.

37. (Original) The system of claim 36, further comprising:
means for inputting a plurality of access codes for accessing a plurality of communication media.

38. (Original) The system of claim 37, further comprising:
means for indicating a plurality of delivery times, each delivery time corresponding to delivery of the recorded message to each of a plurality of communication media.

39. (Original) The system of claim 38, further comprising:
means for indicating whether the message should only be delivered if the recipient directly receives the message.

40. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 39, further comprising:
means for indicating a re-send delay period used to re-send the message
to a second user after a re-send delay period if the recipient does
not directly receive the message.
41. (Original) The system of claim 35, wherein the communication
medium is a telephone.
42. (Original) The system of claim 41, wherein the access code is a
telephone number for the telephone.
43. (Original) The system of claim 35, wherein the communication
medium is a voicemail mailbox.
44. (Original) The system of claim 43, wherein the access code is a
voicemail mailbox number.
45. - 46. (Canceled).

47. (Currently Amended) A system for sending an electronically-recorded message to a communication medium of a second user at a selected time, said system comprising:

means for recording by a first user a message on a stand-alone communication device in direct connection to a telephone line as customer premises equipment;

means for inputting an access code on the stand-alone communication device for accessing a communication medium of the second user;

means for indicating a delivery time for delivery of the message to a communication medium of the second user;

means for keeping track of a clock time;

means for sending the message from the stand-alone communication device to the communication medium of the second user when the time reaches the delivery time; and

means for selecting for retraction the message by canceling delivery of the message before the delivery time;

means for storing a plurality of groups of named recipients under user-defined categories and assigning each of the plurality of groups with a specific alphanumeric code;

means for determining whether each recipient of the message should receive the message at the same time; and

means for determining individual delivery instructions if any recipient
should receive the message at a different time,
wherein the first user is distinct from the second user.

48. (Original) The system of claim 47, wherein the communication medium comprises a plurality of communication media, each communication medium having its own unique access code.

49. (Original) The system of claim 48, further comprising:
means for inputting a plurality of access codes for accessing a plurality of communication media.

50. (Original) The system of claim 49, further comprising:
means for delivering the message at a plurality of delivery times, each delivery time corresponding to delivery of the recorded message to each of a plurality of communication media.

51. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 50, further comprising:
means for determining whether the message should only be delivered if the second user directly receives the message.

52. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 51, further comprising:
means for delaying for a period of time before re-sending the message to
the second user if the second user does not directly receive the
message.
53. (Original) The system of claim 47, wherein the communication
medium is a telephone.
54. (Original) The system of claim 53, wherein the access code is a
telephone number for the telephone.
55. (Original) The system of claim 47, wherein the communication
medium is a voicemail mailbox.
56. (Original) The system of claim 55, wherein the access code is a
voicemail mailbox number.
57. - 66. (Canceled).